AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, along with their current status, is set forth below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) A data entry device comprising:

a key having a first data entry value associated with depressing a first portion of the key;

the key having a second data entry value associated with deflecting the key in a predetermined direction toward a second portion of the key different from the first portion;

the key having a third data entry value associated with simultaneously depressing and deflecting the key in the predetermined direction to engage both the first and second portions of the key;

the key having a user readable indication of the first, second, and third data entry values; and

where the key is adapted for being displaced by a human fingertip.

2. (previously presented) The data entry device of claim 1, wherein the first data entry value is a numeric data value, and the second and third data entry values comprise alphabetic data values.

3. (previously presented) The data entry device of claim 1, wherein the second and third data entry values are each associated with a predetermined zone around a periphery of the key.

4. (previously presented) The data entry device of claim 1, wherein the second and third data entry values are each associated with an adjustable zone around a periphery of the key.

5. (previously presented) The data entry device of claim 1 further comprising a controllable display around the periphery of the key.

6. (original) The data entry device of claim 5 wherein the controllable display is an LCD.

7. (original) The data entry device of claim 3 wherein the number of predetermined zones is user selectable.

8. (original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the key is square in shape and the number of predetermined directions are four.

9. (original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the key is circular in shape and the number of predetermined directions are four, six, or eight.

10. (original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the key is hexagonal in shape and the number of predetermined directions are six.

11. (original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the key is octagonal in shape and the number of predetermined directions are eight.

12. (previously presented) A data entry device comprising:

a plurality of keys, each key having a first data entry value associated with depressing the key to displace a first portion of the key;

each key having one or more additional discrete data entry values associated with deflecting the key in a predetermined direction to displace the key toward a second portion of the key different from the first portion;

each key having a user readable indication of the first data entry value and each of the one or more additional discrete data entry values; and

a plurality of the user readable indications having alphabetic characters arranged in positions relating to a QWERTY keyboard.

13. (previously presented) The data entry device of claim 12 wherein the plurality of keys comprise a 12-key telephone numeric keypad.

14. (previously presented) The data entry device of claim 12 wherein the plurality of keys is a three-key watch keypad.

15. (previously presented) The data entry device of claim 12 wherein the plurality of keys is a three-key handheld computer keypad.

16-25. (canceled).

26. (currently amended) A data entry system comprising:

a plurality of discrete data values; and

a multifunctional key having a central portion and a plurality of peripheral portions, wherein each of the central and peripheral portions is displaceable to reference a different one of the plurality of discrete data entry values, wherein at least two portions of the multifunctional key are cooperatively movable by pivotally depressing the multifunctional key to reference an additional value of the plurality of discrete data entry values.

27. (previously presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the multifunctional key is pivotable between the central portion and the peripheral portions.

28. (previously presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the at least two portions comprise the central portion and one or more of the peripheral portions.

29. (previously presented) The system of claim 26, comprising a plurality of multifunctional keys arranged with user readable indications of the discrete data values in positions relating to a QWERTY keyboard.

30. (previously presented) A data entry system comprising:

a plurality of discrete data values;

a plurality of keys each having a central portion and a plurality of peripheral portions, wherein each of the central and peripheral portions is displaceable to reference a different one of the plurality of discrete data values, and wherein the key is adapted for operation by a human fingertip; and

user readable indications associated with the plurality of keys displayed in relation to the plurality of keys in positions relating to a QWERTY keyboard.

31. (previously presented) The system of claim 30, wherein three keys are associated with the user readable indications in positions relating to the QWERTY keyboard.

32. (previously presented)The system of claim 30, wherein at least two portions of the keys are simultaneously depressible to reference an additional one of the plurality of discrete data values.

33. (previously presented)The system of claim 32, wherein the at least two portions are disposed adjacent one another on one of the keys.

34. (previously presented)The system of claim 33, wherein the at least two portions are the central and a one of the plurality of peripheral portions of the one of the keys.

35. (previously presented)The system of claim 29, wherein at least one of the central portions and one of the peripheral portions are sequentially movable to reference a one of the plurality of discrete data values.

36. (currently amended) A method of data entry, comprising:

referencing a first alphanumeric character in response to displacement of a first portion of a key;

referencing a second alphanumeric character in response to displacement of a second portion of the key; and

referencing a third alphanumeric character in response to cooperatively depressing the first portion and deflecting the second portion~~cooperative displacement of both the first and second portions of the key~~.

37. (previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the key is positioned in relation to a user viewable designation of the first, second, and third alphanumeric characters to represent a portion of a QWERTY keyboard.

38. (previously presented) A system, comprising:

electronics; and

a mechanical key coupled to the electronics to access a plurality of discrete data values, the key comprising:

a first displaceable portion of the mechanical key configured to access a first data value; and

a second displaceable portion of the mechanical key configured to access a second data value, wherein a third data value is accessible by moving both the first and second displaceable portions, wherein the first, second, and third data values are different from one another.

39. (previously presented) The system of claim 38, comprising a QWERTY keyboard that includes the mechanical key.

40. (previously presented) The system of claim 39, wherein the QWERTY keyboard comprises no more than three mechanical keys.

41. (previously presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the QWERTY keyboard is coupled to a wristwatch.